



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged in the West, irregular elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady with caution to weak. Demand was moderate at best, mostly slow and unaggressive to fair with sharp discounts not improving movement. Supplies were adequate to abundant with heavier weights longest. Processing schedules were heavy with numerous plants operating over the weekend. In the parts structure, breast items and wings were adequate to abundant and hard to clear. Leg items were in balance and moving. In production areas, live supplies were at least moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 02/07-02/12/00 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	43.00-45.00	29.00-60.50	43.94	24
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	62.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	63.00	—		
New York	46.00-49.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	63.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	55.00-57.50	35.00-58.50	56.63	82

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 58.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
577	53.00-59.87	57.92
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	143.00	3,900
BREASTS - WHOLE	74.00	1,750
THIGH MEAT - B/S	75.50	601
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	7,680
WINGS	64.00	2,643

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady at best with caution. Movement was slow to fair with light trading. Supplies were at least sufficient and discounted, but still continued to exceed demand. Processing schedules were full-time to heavy with many plants operating over the weekend to compensate for down times last week. In the parts structure, breast items were in the weakest condition with supplies adequate to ample. Wings were irregular, but mostly slow to move and leg items were in better shape with balanced supplies. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady. Preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last Friday. Offerings of whole body under 3 pounds were adequate with heavier weights ample and discounted. Buying activity was fair. Demand was light to moderate for whole body and moderate to fairly good for parts, best to cover features. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone was barely steady to weak on wings and breasts with the balance of parts generally steady.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading into Chicago slightly lower, TFEWR elsewhere. Whole fryer trade sentiment was cautiously steady to weak, mostly weak. Offerings heavy on large sized product, limited on lighter weight birds. Buyer interest was generally light. Demand into all channels was slow to fair at best. Features noted in Ohio on leg quarters at 29 cents, in Michigan wogs at 39 cents, limit 3 and whole fryers at 59 cents. Floor stocks were fully adequate to ample, sizes desirable. Supplies of all parts adequate. Trade sentiment was steady on dark meat items, barely steady to weak on the balance.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally quiet heading into the weekend. Available offerings consisted mainly of larger sized birds and some discounting was taking place. Movement into retail and distributive channels was light and most dealers indicated little to no improvement for the first of the month. The market tone was cautious and steady at best. In the parts market, wings and breast items continued more than adequate to ample. Dark meat was about adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair at best. Offerings ranged fully adequate to readily available mainly on the 3.5 to 4 pound sizes. Live supplies were moderate to heavy; weights were desirable to heavier than desired. Processing schedules were heavy when combined with operations planned for Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 49 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. In the parts complex, breast items were generally noted as in excess. Wings remained ample and competitively priced. Leg items were in good balance and clearing satisfactorily.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	46-64
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	53.10
NO. OF BOXES	7,228
CUMULATIVE 01/31/00-02/04/00	52.71
02/01/99-02/05/99	57.00
NO. OF BOXES 01/31/00-02/04/00	39,051
02/01/99-02/05/99	38,818

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

FEB 03, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEB 04, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS				WTD	POUNDS				WTD	WEEKLY
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG		
BREAST - B/S	623	133.00-197.00	135-140	143.12		455	133.00-197.00	135-140	141.43		2,842 142.89
TENDERLOINS	103	115.00-165.00	115-120	127.14		63	115.00-165.00	-	129.29		558 143.45
BREAST - LINE RUN	122	73.50-77.00	-	76.77		122	73.50-77.00	-	76.77		1,394 74.07
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT					418 49.17
LEGS	47	27.00-34.00	27-28	28.04		47	27.50-34.00	-	28.47		235 28.30
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	419	16.50-20.00	17-18	17.52		339	16.50-19.00	16.5-17.5	17.17		2,026 16.79
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,361	18.50-21.00	20-21	20.43		1,481	18.50-21.00	20-21	20.50		6,465 20.18
WINGS (WHOLE)	132	45.00-62.00	49-52	52.64		87	54.00-74.00	54-55	56.60		520 56.18
WINGS (CUT)	682	58.00-84.00	62-65	67.58		742	55.00-84.00	63-65	64.03		2,802 68.52
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT					TFEWR
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT					TFEWR
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT					247 64.96

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS*****
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR FEB 03, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S

TRADING FOR FEB 04, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S**5-DAY****RANGE****AVERAGE****RANGE****AVERAGE****AVERAGE**

32.00 - 35.50

33.56

31.75 - 33.50

32.34

32.94

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was quiet as hopes for an increased call for the first of the month dissipated. Offerings of dark meat items were about adequate. Breast items, particularly bone-in breasts, were more than adequate to ample. Wings remained available. Retail and distributive movement was usually slow to fair. Some features were planned for next week in hopes of stimulating movement. The market tone was weak for breast items and wings and steady for the balance.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		
BREAST - B/S	145	147.71	370,520		140	143.59	464,520	148.38	1,634,490
TENDERLOINS	115	119.82	74,780		110-115	119.85	101,480	119.99	365,700
BREAST - WITH RIBS	65-66	77.05	160,400		62-63	75.54	173,600	77.34	843,200
BREAST - LINE RUN	65	64.91	180,320		62	60.84	223,400	67.37	872,080
LEGS	26-27	32.97	154,080		26-27	32.55	218,040	31.68	985,880
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	19.81	369,646		17-18	19.33	392,714	19.51	2,038,208
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	34.68	105,270		36-37	34.73	88,920	34.78	460,490
THIGHS	21-22	29.14	52,080		21-22	27.55	90,000	28.20	353,080
B/S THIGHS	70-71	74.74	24,160		70-71	74.53	35,040	74.49	125,650
WINGS (WHOLE)	59-60	65.27	169,240		56-57	63.73	203,880	67.95	827,880
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.09	33,800		10-12	12.10	42,960	12.08	191,160
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.04	31,440		30-35	33.91	48,960	33.82	172,640
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	57.35	40,880		55-60	59.83	59,080	59.33	236,540

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	02/04	02/03	02/02	02/01	02/02	02/01	01/28	01/26
ALA	4,430	3,889	3,850	3,760	4.94	5.12	1,111	4.97
ARK	6,559	5,174	5,150	5,116	4.98	5.01	768	4.91
DELMARVA	3,017	2,415	2,450	2,411	5.31	5.30	4,395	5.56
KY-LA-TN	1,996	2,013	1,948	1,995	4.37	4.45	1,929	4.40
MISS	3,260	2,388	2,723	2,284	5.20	5.25	1,243	5.01
NC	3,923	2,612	2,523	2,396	5.87	6.01	3,339	5.79
TEXAS	2,475	2,240	2,248	2,183	4.74	4.81	2,175	4.78
TOTAL	25,660	20,731	20,892	20,145	5.06	5.14	14,960	4.93
MON-FRI	109,465(A)						87,994(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 04-Feb 05-Feb-00 is estimated to be 38,390,000 up 71.01 percent from a week ago and up 12.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 22,449,000; last year 34,117,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 05-Feb-00 is estimated to be 163,786,000 head up 13.4 percent from a week ago, and up 8.0 percent from a year ago (Last week 144,385,000 Last year 151,623,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	77-81
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	79-88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	316

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 104-108
	ICE PACK 92-97
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104-107
	DRY PACK 112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK 95
	ICE PACK 91
DUCKS	149-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Jan. 22, 2000 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up

-----THOUSANDS

Head	36,528	27,225	31,625
Avg Weight	3.81	4.81	6.23
% of total /1	38%	29%	33%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	31,065	27,611	45,924
Avg Weight	3.78	4.85	6.11
% of total /1	30%	26%	44%
Same week, yr ago /2	32,884	28,120	43,934
Avg Weight	3.93	4.78	6.07
% of total /1	31%	27%	42%
To date/2000	93,118	92,273	121,702
To date/1999	99,794	96,679	134,737

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 29-Jan-00 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	THOUSANDS				
HEAD	144,385(A)	2,083	1,222	3,305	517
AVG WT	4.89	3.34	7.72	4.96	6.63
LAST WEEK	147,873	2,030	1,229	3,259	477
YR AGO	149,667	2,287	1,378	3,665	481
AVG WT	4.99	3.97	7.89	5.45	6.53
TO-DATE/2000	604,331	8,269	5,360	13,629	2,031
TO-DATE/1999	604,897	9,083	5,449	14,532	2,011

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 151.7 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 146.1 million head or 5.6 million head less than or 96 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: FEB 01, 2000

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.62 - .70	Silkie	4.00 - 5.20ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.60 - .74	Geese 9-14	.26 - .28
Pekin Ducks	.60 - .78	Pigeons	2.25 - 3.00ea.
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.60 - .84	White Pigeons	3.10 - 3.35ea.
Rabbits 5-6	.70 - 1.04	Rabbits 4-6	1.20 - 1.70
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.60 - 1.02	Rabbits 7-11	1.30 - 1.60
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.70 - 1.24	Bunnies	.35 - 1.75ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.70 - 1.10	Guinea Pigs	2.50 - 5.50ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.75 - 2.55	Doves	3.50 - 5.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.50 - 6.00ea.	Chukars	2.75ea.
Banty Hens	1.50 - 3.50ea.	Pullets 4-6	.70 - 1.32

Total Coops Sold 526

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 31-JAN-2000

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS,
US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL
TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

<u>ORIGIN</u>	<u>FROZEN</u>	<u>FRESH</u>
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-55	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	69-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE. DOLLARS PER DOZEN. 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT.DE.FL.GA.MA.MD.ME.NC.NH.NJ.NY.PA.RI.SC.VA.VT.WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. Retail demand was good with the Chinese New Year providing some extra product movement. Sizes were desirable to heavy. Schedules were full time to over time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A
DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-
5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 31-JAN-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS
AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

		MILLION HEAD	MILLION HEAD		
WEEK ENDING		SLAUGHTERED	AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
DECEMBER	25	118.9	137.9	86	5.05
JANUARY	1	129.1	140.4	92	4.89
	8	157.5	144.3	109	5.01
	15	158.4	148.5	107	5.10
	22	149.7	150.6	99	5.20
	29	146.1	151.7	96	4.89
YEAR TO DATE		611.7	595.1	103	
FEBRUARY	5		152.4		
	12		152.1		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 29-Jan-00

IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 4,244 HD, 22,493 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 660 lbs.,
Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

-----THOUSANDS-----

<u>W/E</u>	<u>02/04/00</u>	<u>01/29/00</u>	<u>% CHG</u>	<u>02/05/99</u>	<u>% CHG</u>
Broilers	163,786	*144,385	+13	*151,623	+08
Cattle	700	684	+02	*663	+06
Hogs	1,865	1,869	0	*1,925	-03

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Majority trading on heavy canners were higher, and mostly unchanged to slightly higher on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was generally good for limited offerings of heavies, and usually moderate for light canners. The undertone was fully steady to firm on heavies and generally steady on lights.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<u>LIGHT CANNER HENS</u> <u>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</u> 26-27 MAJORITY	<u>HEAVY CANNER HENS</u> <u>(WITHOUT NECKS)</u> 32.75-39 MAJORITY 36.5-39
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CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<u>LIGHT CANNER HENS</u> <u>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</u> 26-30 MAJORITY 26-28	<u>HEAVY CANNER HENS</u> <u>(WITHOUT NECKS)</u> 33-41 MAJORITY 37.5-40
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EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was moderate for usually adequate offerings. Some flocks were reported as being put on a two week hold. However, processing schedules were reported as being normal for next week. Undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderately good for about adequate to adequate offerings. The undertone was usually steady.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	

<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-.5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading		

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices continued unchanged. Demand was moderate for the fully adequate to ample offerings. Trade sentiment about steady.

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